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In addition to the inoculation of this guinea pig, Dr. Benson had inoculated other animals from the first guinea pig, and had, on my arrival, obtained the organism in pure culture.

Immediately upon my arrival cultures were made upon glucose broth, lactose broth, salt agar, and neutral agar.

Guinea pigs and white rats were inoculated, some subcutaneously and some cutaneously. Some of the animals, in addition, received antiplague serum. In 24 hours examination of the cultures showed the absence of involution forms upon salt agar; profuse and heavy growth upon salt agar and neutral agar; the formation of gas with acidity in glucose broth; a growth in lactose broth without change in reaction.

A guinea pig inoculated subcutaneously, and which had not received any antiplague serum, showed distinct evidence of illness within 18 hours after inoculation, and died in about 28 hours after inoculation. At necropsy the findings were in no way typical of plague.

The white rat inoculated by subcutaneous injection, and which had also received antiplague serum, died in about 36 hours after inoculation, some hours before the control animal, which had received no antiplague serum.

Based on the above findings, the opinion was arrived at that the organism isolated from the suspected rat was not the plague bacillus.

VIRULENT SMALLPOX.

For a number of years smallpox of a mild form has been widely prevalent throughout the United States. From time to time the virulent type of the disease has appeared in certain localities. During the past few weeks this virulent type of the disease has been present in the city of Los Angeles, Cal., and in the neighboring city of Pasadena. In Los Angeles from July 28 to August 17, 19 cases of smallpox were reported, with 7 deaths. In the neighboring city of Pasadena, during the latter part of July, there were 3 cases, with 2 deaths. Of the 7 deaths in Los Angeles, all occurred in persons who had never been vaccinated, with the exception of one case, which was in a person who had been vaccinated 30 years before the attack.

During the past few months virulent smallpox was also present in certain localities in Texas, the most pronounced outbreak being in Tarrant County.

LEPROSY.

The occurrence of two cases of leprosy in persons who had resided in Michigan for some years, noted on page 1437, brings again to general attention the need for some definite policy which will act uniformly throughout the country for the control and segregation of lepers. During the calendar year 1911 there were reported in the continental United States 41 cases of leprosy coming to official notice during the year. These 41 cases were distributed among 19 States.